

shelf life. Allusion to the fact that it is diluted used, e.g., in multi-component IFN compositions, is not a part of the teaching of the commercial preparations (ALFANATIVE[®], ALFERON[®] II, WELLPOSEFON[®]).

Please replace the paragraph on page 4, lines 17-19 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In particular, the present method for preparing virus-safe pharmaceutical compositions of biologically active proteins is characterized by a method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition of a biologically active protein comprising the steps of (1) adding to a solution of the protein a non-ionic detergent; (2) subjecting the solution containing the non-ionic detergent to filtration on a virus removal filter with a pore size of 10 to 40 nm; and (3) recovering the filtrate.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 4, lines 21-24 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The method for stabilizing pharmaceutical compositions of purified leukocyte α -interferon is characterized by an α -interferon composition, comprising a non-ionic detergent as a stabilizer in an amount exceeding the critical micellar concentration of the detergent and being essentially free from substances and agents retained on a virus-filter having a high virus retentive capacity even for small non-enveloped viruses and the virus-safe α -interferon solution is characterized by a